

Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge

Sport Fishing

Welcome to Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service established the refuge in 1958 primarily for nesting, resting, staging and feeding waterfowl. Sport fishing is a priority public use and can provide a quality recreational experience when pursued responsibly. We allow fishing in accordance with State laws and the following refuge specific regulations.

Warm water fish species including northern pike, bass, black crappie, bullhead, carp, sunfish and yellow perch are the most common species found on the refuge.

We allow fishing and frogging in accordance with State laws subject to the following conditions:

The refuge is open from sunrise to sunset.

We allow fishing and frogging in Oak Orchard Creek (between Route 63 and Knowlesville Road) and in Ringneck Marsh only.

Frogs may be taken within State season with a spear, club, hook or by hand.

We allow shore fishing except when in an unmotorized boat on Oak Orchard Creek. You can access Oak Orchard Creek at the bridges on Route 63, Sour Springs Road and Knowlesville Road and fish along the shore. The shoreline is flat and when dry it is accessible to wheelchairs however, access to the shore at Route 63 and Knowlesville Road is via a steep ramp.

You can access Ringneck Marsh from Sour Springs Road and below Ringneck Marsh Overlook on Oak Orchard Ridge Road. From Sour Springs Road you can fish off the edge of the road. The road is dirt and gravel and slopes sharply to the water on both sides. To fish from Ringneck dike, park in the

overlook and walk down onto the grass dike below. There are large rocks along the bank. Please do not go beyond the water control structure.

Ice Fishing

We allow ice fishing on Ringneck Marsh only, from December 1 through the last day in February. All structures or other equipment must be removed from the refuge after the completion of the day's fishing activities.



Vehicles

Vehicles are only allowed on established roads marked open for vehicular travel. Vehicles must be parted off the lane of travel. ATV's and snowmobiles are not allowed.



Boats

Canoes and other boats without motors may only be used on Oak Orchard Creek, from Knowlesville Road to Route 63. You may launch boats from Route 63, Sour Springs Road and Knowlesville Road. As you pass through wooded swamp, expect obstructions and variable water levels.



Pets

Please keep your pet on a leash no longer than 10 feet at all times.

Prohibited Activities

Camping, overnight parking, open fires and littering.

The use of guns or longbows for the purpose of frogging.

Wading or float devices such as inner tubes or inflatable rafts are prohibited.

Collecting or releasing live bait.

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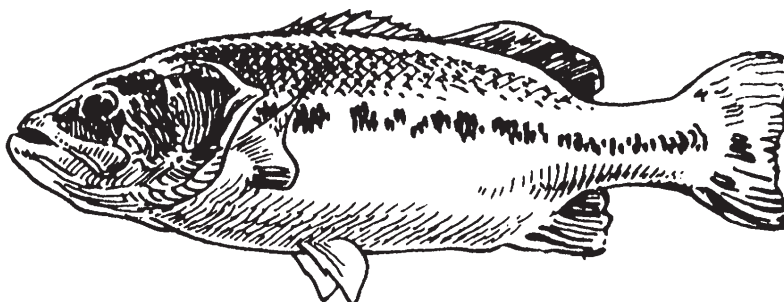
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Map

